

REMARKS

In the Official Action of June 10, 2005, Applicants' election in response to the restriction requirement made in the first Action was acknowledged, claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by the Honkomp, *et al.* patent ("Honkomp"), and claims 8-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 "as being unpatentable over Honkomp [sic, because the differences between Honkomp and the claimed invention would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made]."

Although Applicants' election of Figs. 1-4 and claims 1-3 and 5-13 was acknowledged in the Official Action of June 10, 2005, Applicants made that election while traversing and requesting reconsideration of the restriction requirement. However, the Official Action of June 10, 2005 does not indicate that the restriction requirement was reconsidered, nor does it indicate that the restriction requirement was made final. Applicants therefore once again request reconsideration of the restriction requirement made in the Official Action of March 30, 2005.

In response to the rejection of the claims, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the thermoplastic jacket is moved from an initial position applied over the conductor and the end of the metal body that is subjected to either high pressure or high temperature, or both high temperature and high pressure for sealing around the conductor to a second, radially outwardly expanded position for sealing against the instrument to which the connector is assembled by application of high pressure, high temperature, or both high pressure and high temperature. Honkomp teaches no such structure, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the §102 rejection of claim 1 is therefore respectfully requested.

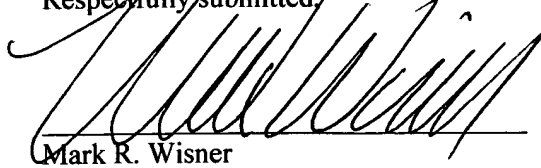
Claims 8-11 are dependent on an allowable main claim and are therefore likewise allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection of those claims is respectfully requested in light of the above-characterized amendment to claim 1.

Independent claim 12 has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1, and claim 13 is dependent upon amended claim 12. For the same reasons as set out above in connection with claims 1 and 8-11, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection of claims 11-12 are respectfully requested.

New claims 14-17 have been added to more completely claim that which Applicants regard as their invention and are intended to fall within the scope of the claims that Applicants elected in response to the restriction requirement made in the March 30, 2005 Action such that they are intended to be examined with claims 1-3 and 5-13. Entry of the above amendments and new claims 14-17, consideration of the remarks set out herein, allowance of the claims, and passage of the application to issuance are all respectfully requested. In the unforeseen event that

there are questions and/or issues yet to be answered in this application, it is respectfully requested that Applicants' Attorney be contacted at the address and phone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark R. Wisner', written over a horizontal line.

Mark R. Wisner

Registration No. 30,603

1177 West Loop South, Suite 400

Houston, Texas 77027-9012

Telephone: (713) 785-0555

Facsimile: (713) 785-0561

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Date: November 10, 2005